

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-1223
Eklo School
20221 Middletown Road
Middletown, Baltimore County
Ca. 1859
Private

Constructed circa 1859, the Eklo School is located at 20221 Middletown Road near Middletown in the Sixth District of Baltimore County. The School Commissioners of Baltimore County acquired the land in 1859 from Henry and Lydia Hoffman. Referred to as School No. 3 in the Sixth District, the Eklo School was used as a high school beginning in 1884. It also provided meeting space for the Rural Life Club of the Sixth District. In 1930, Clarence Cooper, Superintendent of Schools for Baltimore County, sought to improve the quality of education in rural areas by consolidating these smaller schools. He began this process in the Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Districts of Baltimore County. Following the consolidation of schools, the Eklo School was sold and rehabilitated to serve as a dwelling.

Rising one-and-a-half stories in height, the vernacular school building is seven bays wide. Now used as a dwelling, the building is set on a coursed rubble stone foundation and is constructed of brick laid in eight-course American bond. A centrally located projecting gable bay dominates the façade, or west elevation. This projecting bay holds a single-leaf flush wood replacement door framed by a Colonial Revival-style door surround with a dentiled entablature. This door surround was applied over the original brick jack arch lintel. The entry is flanked by a 2/2 horizontal sash replacement window and a 1/1 vinyl replacement window. In the gable end of the projecting bay, there is a one-light fixed circular window with a soldier course surround. The main block of the school features 6/6 windows with three-light transoms. All of the windows have round-edged wood surrounds, stone sills, and brick jack arch lintels. The side gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles and there is a molded wood cornice at the roofline. Two interior chimneys rise from the east roof slope, one with metal cladding and the other of brick stretcher bond. There is also a circa 1930 shed to the rear of the house and three non-historic outbuildings that date from the last quarter of the 20th century.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-1223

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Eklo School

other

2. Location

street and number 20221 Middletown Road not for publication

city, town Middletown vicinity

county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Faye L. Therit

street and number 20221 Middletown Road telephone Not Available

city, town Freeland state MD zip code 20153-9630

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 4921 folio 576

city, town Towson tax map 6 tax parcel 178 tax ID number 0620030320

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory

1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-1223

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Eklo School was constructed circa 1859 at 20221 Middletown Road between the villages of Middletown and Eklo. Rising one-and-a-half stories in height, the vernacular school building is seven bays wide. Now used as a dwelling, the building is set on a coursed rubble stone foundation and is constructed of brick laid in eight-course American bond. A centrally located projecting gable bay dominates the façade, or west elevation. This projecting bay holds a single-leaf flush wood replacement door framed by a Colonial Revival-style door surround with a dentiled entablature. This door surround was applied over the original brick jack arch lintel. The entry is flanked by a 2/2 horizontal sash replacement window and a 1/1 vinyl replacement window. In the gable end of the projecting bay, there is a one-light fixed circular window with a soldier course surround. The main block of the school features 6/6 windows with three-light transoms. All of the windows have round-edged wood surrounds, stone sills, and brick jack arch lintels. The side gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles and there is a molded wood cornice at the roofline. Two interior chimneys rise from the east roof slope, one with metal cladding and the other of brick stretcher bond.

There is also a circa 1930 shed to the rear of the house and three non-historic outbuildings that date from the last quarter of the 20th century. The circa 1930 shed is clad in beaded vertical board with three openings: a double-leaf door, a sliding single-leaf door, and a four-light window. The shed roof is clad in corrugated metal and has exposed rafter tails.

The non-historic shed features a poured concrete foundation, grooved plywood cladding, a single-leaf door, and a front gable roof with rolled asphalt sheeting. The carport is three-bays wide with metal posts supporting an asphalt shingled shed roof. The carport has been partially enclosed with grooved plywood. The garage, which was constructed circa 2000, is set on a poured concrete foundation. It is clad in standing seam metal siding and has a front gable roof. Two roll-up metal doors pierce the façade of the garage.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-1223

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates	1859 ca., 1884, 1933	Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction dates	1859 ca.		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Constructed circa 1859, the Eklo School is located at 20221 Middletown Road near Middletown in the Sixth District of Baltimore County. The School Commissioners of Baltimore County acquired the land in 1859 from Henry and Lydia Hoffman. Referred to as School No. 3 in the Sixth District, the Eklo School was used as a high school beginning in 1884. It also provided meeting space for the Rural Life Club of the Sixth District. In 1930, Clarence Cooper, Superintendent of Schools for Baltimore County, sought to improve the quality of education in rural areas by consolidating these smaller schools. He began this process in the Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Districts of Baltimore County. The new consolidated schools were “large stone buildings with indoor bathrooms, central heating, gymnasiums...to name but a few of the conveniences the little school houses lacked.”¹ Following the consolidation of schools, the Eklo School was sold and rehabilitated to serve as a dwelling. In 1933, Jacob and Angeline Wilehlms purchased the property, signifying its end as a schoolhouse and adaptation to a residence.

The Sixth District is located in the northwest corner of Baltimore County and is historically known for its rugged landscape, abundant waterpower, and production of wheat, corn, and oats. By 1850, Middletown had begun to thrive, as the mid-century county atlas indicates that the town included a tavern and schoolhouse in addition to several residences along Middletown Road between Freeland and Oakland Road.² By 1877, a church had been erected and Middletown had grown from a small crossroads community into a rural center. At that time, the town included a physician’s office, the schoolhouse, an Odd Fellows Hall, a store and one “shop.”³ Although the community’s 1881 population of only forty-nine inhabitants did not appear significant, the town was nevertheless in a strategic location between two crossroads along Middletown Road.⁴ Growth in and around Middletown slowed in the early 20th century, leaving it a rural community in northern Baltimore County.⁵

¹ S. B. Clemens and C. E. Clemens, *From Marble Hill to Maryland Line: An Informal History of Northern Baltimore County* (np: C. E. Clemens and S. B. Clemens, 1976), p. 28.

² J. C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

³ *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

⁴ Scharf, p. 870.

⁵ *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-1223

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1.25 Acres
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name New Freedom Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Eklo School is located at 20221 Middletown Road near Middletown in the Sixth District of Baltimore County. It has been associated with Tax Map 6, Parcel 178 since its construction circa 1859.

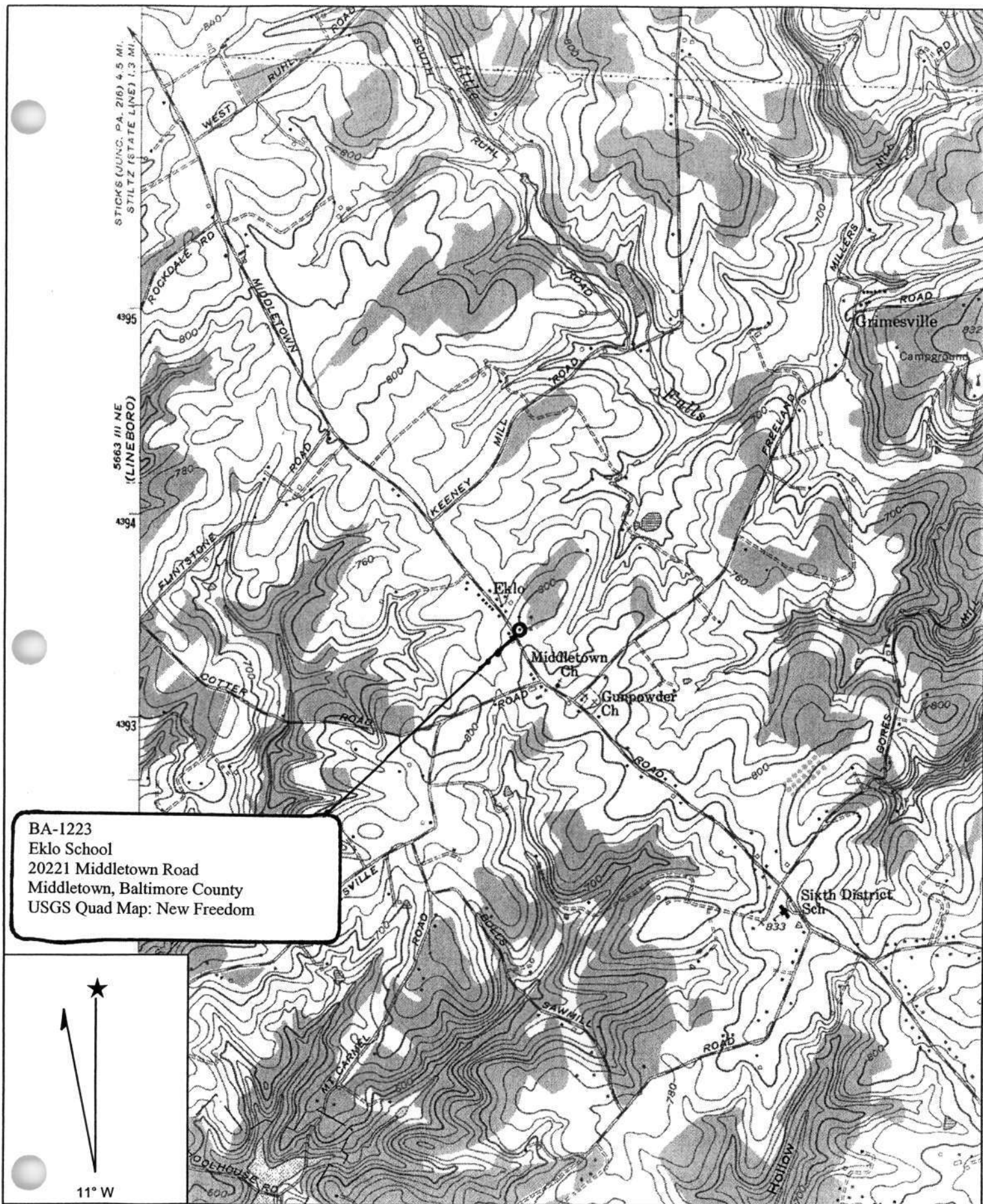
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	R. Weidlich, A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 15, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

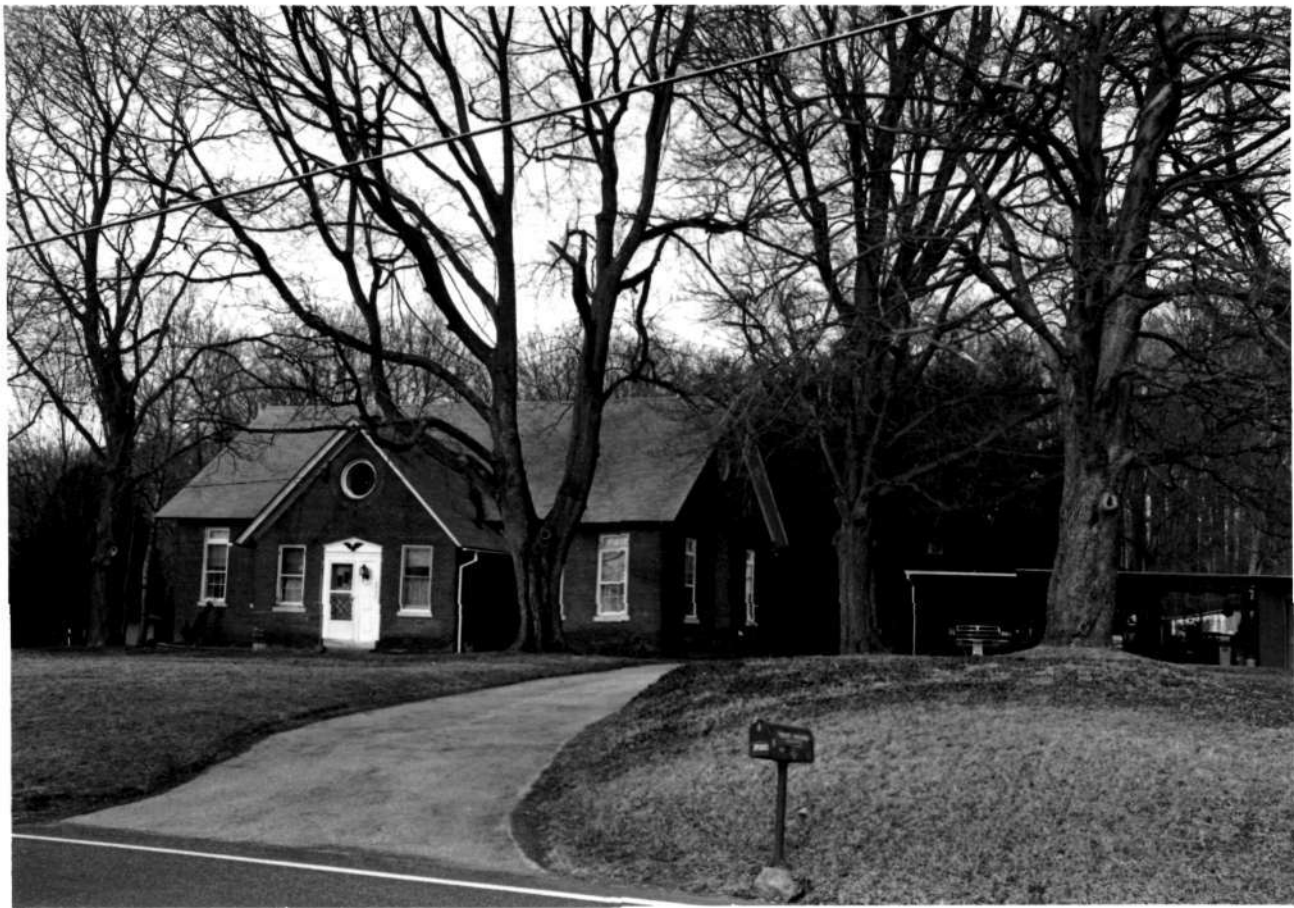
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



BA-1223
Eklo School
20221 Middletown Road
Middletown, Baltimore County
USGS Quad Map: New Freedom

Name: NEW FREEDOM
Date: 6/2/2003
Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: 18 351672 E 4393514 N



BA-1223
2022' MIDDLETOWN ROAD
FREELAND
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRAILERES

3/2001
MD-SHPD
SW CORNER
1 of 4



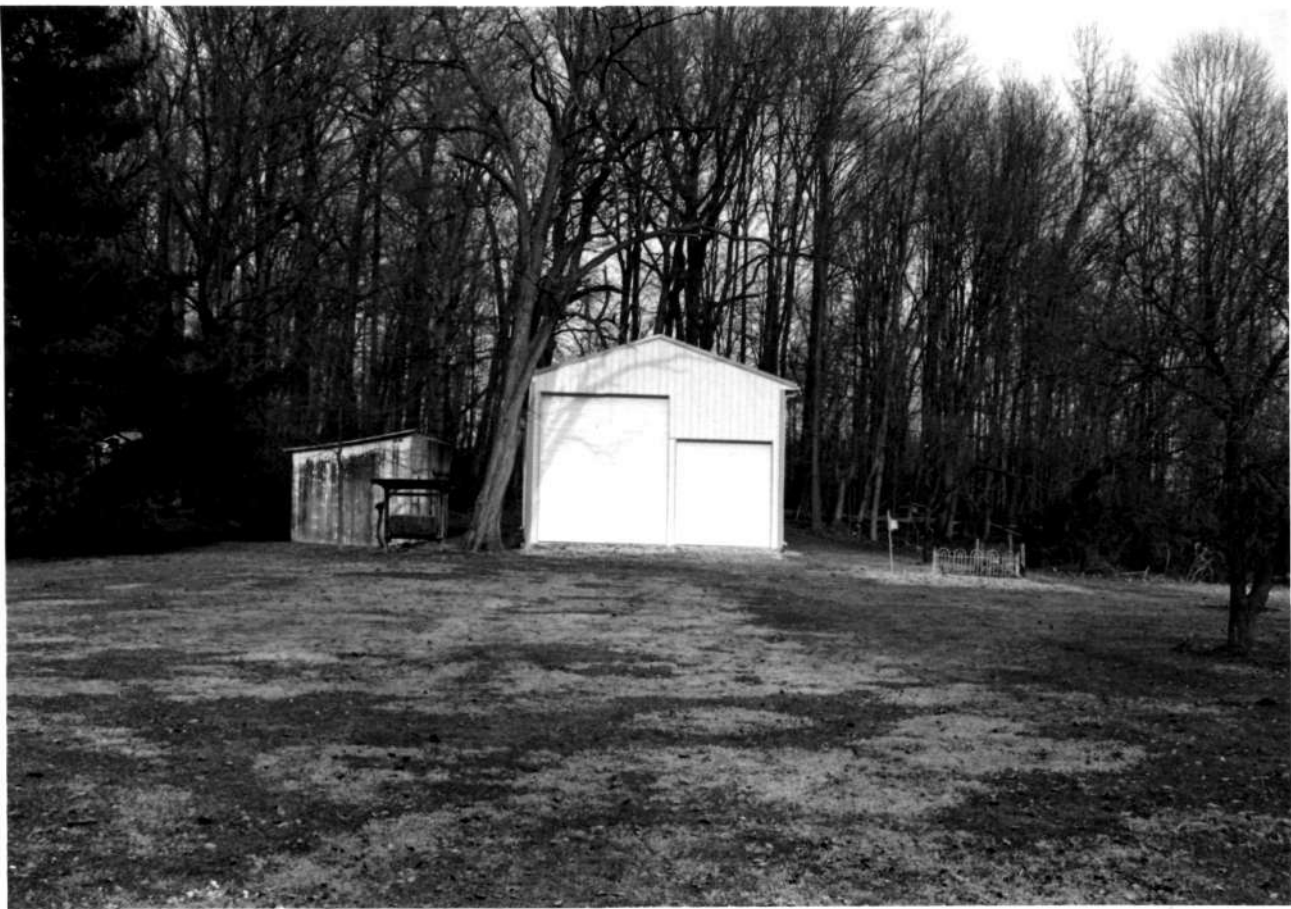
BM-1223
20221 MIDDLETOWN ROAD
FREELAND
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRAILER 15
3/2001
MD- SHPO
NW CORNER
2 of 4



BA-1223
20221 MIDDLETOWN ROAD
FREELAND
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRAILERIES

3/2001
MD-SHO
NE CORNER

3 of 4



BA-1223
20221 MIDDLETOWN ROAD
FREELAND
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES
3/2001
MD-SIRO
OUTBUILDINGS
4 of 4

BA- 1223

EKLO SCHOOL - c. 1859 - (NE side of) 20221 Middletown Road, 0.15 mile NW of Cotter Road. Brick schoolhouse in functional design, six bays wide, with center entrance; originally had three bays on ends. Gable roof. Good condition. Lot was acquired by School Commissioners in 1859 from Henry and Lydia Hoffman. This was School 3, District 6, and in 1884 was made a high school. The Rural Life Club of the Sixth District met here. In 1933, it was sold off to Jacob and Angeline Wilhelm. Now used as a residence. Owner: Charles W. Therit. "Eklo---the school commissioner --- erecting a two-room house... At present, school is held in the Grange Hall" - MD Journal, January 6, 1883.